

150 years



MARKtime

St. Mark's Church, Gillingham
with St. Mary's Island Church

To please God. Teach his word.
Serve others and Connect people
with Jesus

Mission Focus May: **Lucy Haslam**

St. Mark's Group for May:
Elderly Care: Charing House & St. Mark's House

15th May 2016

Pentecost Sunday

10.30am: **Holy Communion**

Theme: Pentecost

Reading: Acts 2

6.30pm - refreshments served from 6.00pm:

Pentecost United Service

Other Services: 11.00am **Morning Worship** St. Mary's Island

Prayer Ministry: If you would like someone to pray with you or to share concerns with, then members of the prayer team are available in the small chapel at the front of church.

Monday-Friday during term time 9.15am-12.15pm, **St. Mark's Pre-school**, Vicarage Hall - Children need to be registered first

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK?

Monday 16th May: 7.30pm for 7.45pm start **PCC**, Old Vicarage
7.30pm **Landmark**, Old Vicarage

Tues 17th May: 6.30pm **Anti Human Slavery Evening** @ 1 East Court, Enterprise Road, Maidstone, ME15 6JF. Please see the poster at the back of church for more details, thank you.

Weds 18th May: 9.00am **Holy Communion**, Church
9.30am **Ladies Group**, Old Vicarage
1.15pm **Parents & Toddlers**, Vicarage Hall

Thurs 19th May: 1.00pm-3.00pm **Foodbank**, Church

Fri 20th May: 6.15pm-7.30pm **Kidz Klub**, ages 7-11, Old Vicarage/Hall
8.00pm **Table-Tennis Club** - All St Mark's over - 18's welcome, Vicarage Hall

Sat 21st May: 10.00am-12.00noon **Foodbank**, Church.

Small Groups meet in various locations at different times throughout the week - please speak to Gary or Chris Atkins if you would like to be in a mid-week group.

Next Sunday 22nd May 2016:

10.30am Holy Communion

6.30pm Service of the Word

Other Services: 11.00am **Family Service**, St. Mary's Island.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thurs 26th May: 7.30pm **Men's Curry Night** @ the Shipa Tandoori Restaurant, Canterbury Street, Gillingham, ME7 5TS - other bi-monthly dates are: 21st July, 29th Sept & 24th Nov.

Fri 27th May: 10.00am-12.00noon **Lydia Prayer Meeting**, Old Vicarage

Sun 12th June: 12.30pm-2.00pm **150th St. Mark's Anniversary Big Lunch**, Old Vicarage site - more details to follow...

Sun 3rd July: 4.00pm-6.00pm **Over-60s Afternoon Tea**, Old Vicarage Garden/Hall. Please put this date in your diary; invitations to follow! Saju.

Sun 17th July: **Family Picnic** after church, more details to follow.

FAMILY NEWS

Dear Friends

Thank you so much for the wonderful send-off you gave us on Sunday 1st May. Chris's song, your kind words and lovely gifts meant so much to us all. We wish you all the very best for the future. With love, Richard, Kathryn, Emily & Joannah

The Trustees of People Without Limits have put out the following statement:

'There is a time for everything and a season for every activity under Heaven - Ecclesiastes 3 v1

It is with a distinct sense of loss that we advise of the cancellation of the Summer Celebration for 2016, but also to advise of the decision to close People Without Limits as a charitable company. The Trustees met and came to the conclusion that there was insufficient support to enable us to continue with the plans for the Celebration. Having made this difficult decision we then looked at the purpose of PWL and after much prayer and discussion came to the conclusion that the company should be closed. We have a sense of great thanksgiving for all that People Without Limits has been and done and whilst grieving the loss of something that we love so much and that has been such an important part of the lives of so many, we do feel that there is a new season approaching and trust that God has a plan'.

150th Anniversary Photographs

The group photos taken at the Community Celebration can now be viewed and downloaded from the 150th Celebration link on the St Mark's website. The URL for direct link is: [http://gillingham.churchinsight.com/Articles/453926/150th Anniversary.aspx](http://gillingham.churchinsight.com/Articles/453926/150th%20Anniversary.aspx) Speak to Glyn Allen for more information.

The 150th Anniversary Brochure and St Mark's Story PowerPoint can be downloaded from the website: www.stmarkschurchgillingham.co.uk. If you would like a hard copy of the Anniversary Brochure, please speak with Neville Piper.

If you haven't yet written in the Vistors Book at the back of church, please do so, in this 150th anniversary year – it will be a record for the future of the current St Mark's Church family; just a thought or a few words (an essay is not required!). Thank you.

JustTextGiving

If you wish to give financially to the work of St Mark's, you may do so by sending a text (SMS) message to **70070**

- To donate £2 text: **SMKG15£2**
- To donate £5 text: **SMKG15£5**
- To donate £10 text: **SMKG15£10**



If you are a tax payer you can also add Gift Aid to your donation by responding to the text message receipt you will receive. All text donations are free, you just pay the cost of your donation. Thank you.



POINTS FOR PRAISE AND PRAYER

"I pray that you will begin to understand how incredibly great His power is to help those who believe Him. It is that same mighty power that raised Christ from the dead and seated Him in the place of honour at God's right hand in heaven," Ephesians 1:19-20 (Living Bible)

Thank you, Lord that in You all things are possible (Luke 18:27). Please help us to remember this in our daily struggles and encourage us to call out to You for Your loving grace, wisdom and strength. Amen.

Ask the Lord to bring peace, justice and His amazing love into the many hurting places of the world for His, "incredibly great power" is the same yesterday, today and forever (Hebrews 13:8)... Let the Lord give you a country, situation or event to bring before Him this week.

Praise for our Listening Week activities and prayer... **pray** for the **Mission Action Plan (MAP) Team** as they consolidate responses as we try to discern the way forward...

Pray for the words God is bringing us through our recent visiting speakers: Bishop Graham Cray, Thomas Collett-White, Jim Findlay and Paul Perkin... (If you have missed any of these sermons do listen to them online or ask for a copy in another format).

Pray for the **PCC Meeting** tomorrow (16th) and that everyone will be open to God's vision for St. Mark's.

Pray for **Richard, Kathryn, Emily and Joannah England** as they prepare to move to Crofton Parish, Stubbington (near Fareham, Hampshire)... **Ask the Lord** to be with **Emily** as she has gone three weeks before the family move to take up her school place.

Praise for the many ways that the Lord is allowing us to understand His vision for St. Mark's especially through our visiting speakers, our quiet prayer times, Small Groups and conversations... **Ask the Lord** to continue to get it right before Him for His glory's sake. Amen.

Pray for all those known to you, who have elderly relatives or friends with dementia and are struggling to cope with their needs.... **Ask the Lord** to be very close to everyone involved... **Praise the Lord** for all members of our community who care for loved ones – young and old.

Continue to pray for the **GYFC team** in light of the decision to draw a line and officially close GYFC... **Ask the Lord** to give His peace to everyone involved... **Praise** that when the Lord closes one door He always has new and exciting plans for the future.

Pray for the whole **Haslam family** following Mike's father's funeral last Friday... **Remember in prayer Lucy Haslam**, our Mission Partner, who is currently studying at Oak Hill, London at this difficult time too.

Praise for all the answers to prayer in the recent **Small Group Leader's Meeting**... **Ask the Lord** to continue to strengthen, encourage and guide everyone involved... **Take time this week to pray** for anyone you know who is not in a small group yet.

Pray for **John Townsend** undergoing surgery on Tuesday... **Megan Brouwer's best friend Artie** whose father passed away recently...for **Sheelagh Graves** following further surgery... for **Annie Townsend** who has broken her hand in a recent fall... for **Richard Tolhurst, Mike Young, Bill Keast, Glyn Allen, Julie Hanning**... for **Mo Chen** ... for **Rose Miller's** meeting with the respiratory team on 20th May... for **Mags & Jim Findlay and family** following the recent funeral of Mags' father... and others known to us who are in need of God's comfort and healing touch.

Pray for our Mission Partner for May: **Lucy Haslam** ...
Please pray for our St. Mark Group's for May: **Elderly Care: Charing House & St. Mark's House**

Bible readings for May 2016

Day	Psalm	1 st Reading	2 nd Reading
Mon 16 th	126	Joshua Ch.1	Luke 9.18-27
Tues 17 th	132	Joshua Ch.2	Luke 9.28-36
Weds 18 th	119.153-end	Joshua Ch.3	Luke 9.37-50
Thurs 19 th	143	Joshua 4.1-5.1	Luke 9.51-end
Fri 20 th	142	Joshua 5.2-end	Luke 10.1-16
Sat 21 st	147	Joshua 6.1-20	Luke 10.17-24

Except for the first Sunday of the month **during term time**, groups for children and young teenagers meet at the Old Vicarage & the Carer's Centre respectively, each Sunday morning. All our youth & children's workers are DBS checked for your child's protection and safety. **If you have young children** please feel free to take your children to the Creche area at the back of church, near the sound desk (ask if you can't see it). Children are important to us at St. Mark's and we want them to be happy. Please feel free to let them play quietly in the Creche; **we just ask that you stay with them and leave the area tidy!**